GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2085
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2006
US ASSISTANCE FOR FIGHTING TERRORISM
Paraste Shri Dalpat Singh

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the US Assistant Secretary of State has stated that terrorist groups mounting attacks on India have their origin and links in Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the US has extended its co-operation to help India fight terrorism; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a)−(b) During a press interaction in New Delhi on November 10, 2006, US Assistant Secretary Richard Boucher referring to the problem of terrorism and in particular to the Mumbai blasts said,"Many of the links that have been talked about, that have been seen, do go back to groups that have origins and ties into Pakistan. But some of these groups all these groups really have been banned and outlawed in Pakistan as well."

(c)−(d) As two democracies confronted with the common challenge of terrorism, India and U.S. have a dialogue on counter terrorism carried out through the Joint Working Group on Counter Terrorism. India and U.S. periodically exchange views on terrorism through this dialogue, and participate in training programmes.